REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 6-14 are pending in the application. Claims 1-4 and 6-14 stand rejected.

Applicant's independent claims have been amended to clarify the claimed invention. For example, in a system, a total bandwidth for image distribution is determined in advance, and the bandwidth is allocated to each image according to the number of images to be distributed.

In this example, a default band (6M in Fig. 9A) is allocated to each image. However, if the number of images to be distributed increases and a default bandwidth cannot be allocated to each image (for example 6M), a narrower bandwidth than the default band (for example 3M in Fig. 9B) is allocated to one or more images. This example is not meant to limit the claim but help explain the features.

Applicant's independent claims include that a corresponding bandwidth is allocated for each of the logical channels according to the number of picture data sets to be transmitted and wherein logical channels may have different bandwidth assigned even though they are distributing picture data.

Claims 1-5, 8-11, 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.§102 as being anticipated by Edens et al. (Edens). Claims 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.§103 as being unpatentable over Edens in view of Natarajan.

Basically Edens discloses "DEFAULT DATA STREAM CHANNEL ASSIGNMENTS" as shown in the TABLE III in col. 34. Edens describes channels with fixed bandwidth where the bandwidth is fixed according to a particular data type. To add additional bandwidth for a data type the reference does it by adding a channel per data type with a fixed amount of bandwidth.

And Edens teaches in col. 33-34, if a band to be allocated for a specific application (for example, MPEG 2) is insufficient, the unused band secured for another application is allocated to the specific application.

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In the Office Action, in paragraph 1 of the response to arguments section, it's stated that col. 34, lines 16-26 of the reference recite that these channels enable network devices to utilize precisely the amount of network bandwidths required by particular data type (emphasis added).

It is respectfully submitted that this is applicant's point, namely the reference describes channels with fixed bandwidth where the bandwidth is fixed according to a particular data type. To add additional bandwidth the reference does it by adding a channel per data type with a fixed amount of bandwidth.

The reference does not describe anywhere that a channel allocated for MPEG video distribution, for example, can have its bandwidth adjusted or modified. The cited reference chooses the number of channels and types of channels according to the number and type of data to be transmitted.

The reference teaches "the ability to reallocate channels dynamically" (col. 34, line 22-23) The reference does not describe allocating respective bandwidth to channels transmitting picture data or as referred to in the reference: picture data under a MPEG 2 channel.

In addition Edens, describes in column 33 through 34, if a band to be allocated for a specific application (for example, MPEG 2) is insufficient, the unused band secured for another application is allocated to the specific application.

However, a reduction of a bandwidth allocated to each application (6M→3M in then example embodiment of applicant's claimed invention) is not disclosed.

Edens teaches bandwidth of the network is fixedly or dynamically allocated according to a request from a media (column 25 line 9 through 12).

In contrast applicant's claims include that bandwidth is allocated for each of the logical channels according to the number of picture data sets to be transmitted. While Edens teaches

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fixing bandwidth according to the media type applicant claims allocating according to the number of picture data sets.

It's indicated in the Office Action that this feature is disclosed in Edens column 25 lines 9-12, column 29 line 46 through column 30 line 37, column 32 lines 28-43, column 33 lines 19-57, column 34 line 17-26, column 53 line 64 through column 54 line 55. However, in reviewing each of these citations the features of allocating and the combination of unique features in not found in the reference nor is it suggested therein.

For example, according to the description in column 33 line 49-61, an unused channel is utilized when a new channel is added.
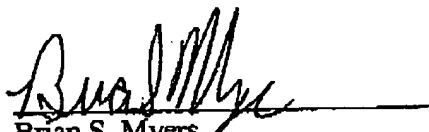
In contrast in an example embodiment of applicant's specification, where the number of requested channels exceeds the number of available channels, as shown in Fig. 9A and so on, the bandwidth allocated for particular picture data will be reduced.

It is respectfully submitted that the cited reference Natarajan likewise fails to teach the features or combination of unique features discussed above with respect to the independent claims. Because Edens fails to teach or suggest applicant's claimed features it is respectfully requested the rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, should the Examiner consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

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Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

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